

[26 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Production of rice in Assam

*591. DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to procure surplus foodgrains specially rice produced in Assam through FCI:

(b) at what rate (per MT) FCI has brought the same from other States and what are those States;

(c) the quantity of rice bought from States every year during the last five years; and

(d) the production of rice in Assam during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) The Government of Assam was requested to enforce its Levy Control Order to enable the Food Corporation of India to purchase rice offered by the millers under the said Order. However, the State Government has not responded in the matter.

(b) The requisite information is given in Annexure-I. [See Appendix 192, Annexure No. 33]

(c) The statement at Annexure-II contains necessary details in this regard. [See Appendix 192, Annexure No. 34]

(d) According to available information, the production of rice in Assam during the last three years was as follows:

(Qty. in Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Quantity
1998-99	32.54
1999-2000	38.60
2000-2001	40.10 (Estimated)